(g) Please see answer to (f).
(h) do

Kole lands.

458. **Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether the Government have adopted the system of storing up water in different areas as a preventive for drought;

(b) if so, whether it was carried out every year;

(c) if it has been carried out in any year the acreage of land so stored up with water and the average depth of water so stored up;

(d) whether the system was dropped;

(e) if so, the reasons for dropping the scheme and not consistently following the system?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Yes. Bunds are put up at intervals in bends of rivers for the storage of water in the dry season.

(b) Yes.

(c) In addition to the water stored up in the bends of rivers water was pumped into an area of 650 acres at Puzhakal and 200 acres in Ollur and Chettupuzha in 1102. The average depth of water was $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

(d) No. This year water is being stored in Ollur.

(e) The question does not arise.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—May I know the names of bunds put up in the bends of rivers?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There are several bunds, the Kottankote Valavu chira, Manjankuzhi chira, Illikal chira, etc.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Whether water stored up by such bunds is utilised by kole cultivators? My question was, "whether Government have adopted the system, etc".

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is not quite clear whether you mean kole lands near the Kottankote valavu chira, etc. Water stored in these chiras are used for cultivating kole lands.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—May I know whether the scheme of storage of water was recommended to the Government in the year 1093?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The kole committee has recommended.

Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.—Is there any particular reason for not accepting it except in the year 1102?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The scheme of storing water has not proved to be a great success. In the year 1103 or 1104 we tried it and we found that the scheme of storing

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water is not very good especially for Mundakan, mainly for two reasons. The time for pumping water is small. The Mundakan will not be ready to receive water before Makaram; and there will not be enough of water in the kole lands to be pumped out. There were only 12 or 15 days' time to pump out water from kole lands to the Mundakan lands. The time for storing water is very limited that enough water cannot be stored. So that scheme did not appear to be a good one.

459. **Mr. C. V. Kuriyan.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether the Government have been investigating any major scheme of irrigation to water kole lands;

(b) if so, what are the schemes;

(c) whether the Chief Engineer has submitted his preliminary report in favour of the Thanikudam scheme;

(d) who investigated the scheme in connection with the preliminary report;

(e) whether the final report has been submitted to the Government by the Engineering Department;

(f) who investigated the scheme in connection with the final report;

(g) whether the final report is in favour of the scheme or not;

(h) if it is not in favour of the scheme, what are the particular reasons weighing with such officer to decide against the preliminary report;

(i) whether the Chief Engineer has not represented in the Legislative Council during the last budget debate in connection with the question of irrigation that the said scheme is a promising one and that actual working of the scheme will be taken up during the next financial year and completed in the course of 3 years;

(j) whether the Chief Engineer has scrutinised the final report in respect of the same scheme;

(k) whether any estimate was submitted by the officer who submitted the final report;

(l) if so, whether the Chief Engineer has examined the estimate;

(m) if the report and the estimate have been scrutinised, what is his decision in the matter;

(n) whether the Government have passed final orders in respect of the scheme;

(o) if so, will the Government be pleased to state the order thereon;

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